

It's Called Stealing

By ARCHEY CAMERON NEW

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Darting out of the way of several large baggage trucks propelled by husky stevedores, John Barnett made his way through the busy labyrinth of the freight sheds to a small private office marked "Shipping Clerk." He entered it and closed the door.

"Number 9's loaded," he announced, meaning, to a young man at the desk, scanning the chart of loaded freight cars. "Are you ready?"

The young man shuddered, but turned resolutely to Barnett.

"Yes," he snapped between clenched teeth. "But I think it's a fool's errand."

Barnett opened the door, called out a command and in a few moments another big man in blue jumpers entered the office.

"You are—?" Barnett started to question the newcomer.

"The one you want," chimed in the other. "From the chief's office. Is Frank going to make the trip?" He nodded to the young man, who returned the nod and spoke.

"Yes," he spoke nervously. "Let's hurry."

Five minutes later Barnett and the man in blue jumpers, pushing a truck on which lay a heavy packing box, passed through the shed to the yards and to No. 9 freight car, one of a long line behind an engine with full steam up. Stopping in front of the door of the car they lifted the box carefully into it. Barnett paused and spoke in a low tone:

"If you feel cramped, Frank," he whispered, bending over the box, "you can hop out for a while when she goes on the siding at Brooks Meadows. But don't by any means open the door or be seen."

Then Barnett closed the door, stepped off a short distance, waved to the engineer and the train started to crawl away.

"Tell your chief it's all right," ordered Barnett to the other. "No one on this end will ever suspect. Now we'll catch the guilty ones."

It seemed to Frank Young, huddled inside the poorly ventilated packing box, that the train had moved a thousand miles before he heard the crunching of brakes and felt the car come to a standstill.

"Brooks Meadows," he muttered to himself, and then pushing off the top with a heave of his shoulders he stood upright after a few seconds and vaulted out of the case. About him lay case after case of canned goods, but these passed unnoticed as he peered through a hole in the door into a vast stretch of open country. Then after a while he sat down and opened a box and started to eat. Then as he was finishing he stopped breathlessly and listened. What was that? It sounded as if some tool was working on the door.

Silently and quickly he cleared away the evidence of his lunch and slipped back to the box, pulling the lid down over him. Another minute and he heard the door roll back. Some one furtively climbed into the car and stood close to the box, for he heard heavy breathing. And then he heard a case being lifted, and after a minute the sound of footfalls on the gravelled right of way alongside the track. Still he remained within the case, and after a few moments the intruder returned. The same process was repeated until six cases had been removed, and then after a long wait Young jumped out of his hiding place. The side door was opened wide and he sprang to the doorway. No one was in sight!

The thief had eluded him! What would his chief say to that? Should he desert his post and start out on what seemed a wild-goose chase, for it was unknown country to him, or remain in the car? Evidently his quarry lay here, and he determined to act at once. He felt for his revolver, and then jumped from the car to the roadway. For a moment he gazed in surprise, for a dozen or more cars lay ahead of the one he had left. And the doors of each had been opened!

He peered about him on the ground, and then, bending over, suddenly made an exclamation.

"Sawdust!" he muttered, and then he started ahead to follow the trail. Cautiously he made his way down a long dirt path, and then, circling a thick pine grove, he brought himself up short. Ahead lay a farmhouse, and beside it a barn. And the trail led direct to the barn.

Seizing his pistol in his hand, he went to the barn opening.

"Hands up!" he commanded, and then his hand dropped.

A slender little girl, whose long brown hair fell about her shapely shoulders, framing a tanned, exquisitely featured face, who was bending over a case of canned goods, rose and faced him, terrified.

"Please," she cried in alarm, "don't shoot."

"What are you doing?" demanded Young, dumfounded. "Who brought those—here?" He pointed to the cases, piled up all about her.

She regained her composure and faced him squarely.

"I did."

"You," he echoed, and then he jumped around, fearing a trap. But they were quite alone, he and this young girl.

"But why do you ask?" she demanded coolly. "I don't know you."

"You will soon enough," he answered, grimly. "It's my business to ask. I have been detailed by the C. D. and Q. to detect robberies. There's been quite a lot stolen, but nothing offered for sale by the thieves. At first we suspected the yard men. One man, the freight agent at Newmarket, was discharged. But still the thefts continued. And now I've found out."

The girl eyed him in horror.

"Surely," she pleaded, wide-eyed, "you don't think I'm a—thief?"

"It's called stealing," he returned, grimly. "I'm afraid I'll have to take you away—under arrest."

She shrank back, but her eyes never left his.

"After—you," she began, falteringly. "After—you—the railroad found out—it wasn't the freight agent at Newmarket that had stolen the goods—did you take him back?"

"No," replied Young, confused. "But what's that to you? You're caught red-handed."

"Apparently so," she retorted, coolly. "Judging from the same standard—you—your railroad—uses. You ask what is it to me. I—I'm his daughter."

"Ah!" exclaimed Young, with a bright thought. "I see. You are in league with him. This is his place."

"It is not," she snapped, angrily. "And there is no league. Father's in—in—a sanatorium—where you put him. You called him guilty, and then refused to reinstate him when you learned differently. Isn't that—stealing? Stealing his good name—sending him out in the world under a cloud—an undeserved cloud? You had thefts from Newmarket and Parkville, didn't you?"

"Yes, but—"

"You have a siding between those points?" she demanded, and he nodded, perplexed, staring at her angry features with admiration, for she was now prettier than ever.

"Well why didn't you look for your—thieves—there?" she demanded.

"You didn't have sense enough, that's why. You've been leaving cars on sidings. In out-of-the-way places, fair prey for anybody who wanted to get to them. I wanted to prove that to the railroad. So I came down here to uncle's place. Since then I've opened thirty cars, and there's the results." She pointed to the pile of cases, then hurried on. "I intended to go up to your general offices next week and tell them all I know. My uncle, Mr. Page, was going with me. He's my father's brother."

Young stepped forward quickly and, a little abashed, held out his hand.

"I beg your pardon, Miss—Page," he apologized. "But will you do me a favor?"

She stared at him questioningly, then his clear gray eyes and wistful young face won her over. She nodded and held out her hand forgivingly.

"Thank you," he said. "It's this: I'm trying to make a name for myself. This is my case. Will you—can you—go up there with me? If you will, I'll exact as my reward—your reward—that your father be taken back and promoted. Will you?" She promised and they started toward the farmhouse to dinner.

Again Frank Young and Ruth Page were back in the big Page barn. It was three months later, and he was there on a vacation this time.

"I like this man-hunting business," he whispered to her as they sat on a pile of loose hay, close together. She turned quickly and gazed at him in horror.

"Frank!" she exclaimed. "Don't say that!"

"I mean it!" he returned, positively. "For I found you that way."

And then he leaned over and, catching her in his arms, kissed her.

"Frank Young!" she cried indignantly, though he felt a tremor run through her slender, yielding form. "What's that?"

"It's called stealing," he retorted humorously. "Stealing a kiss. But I hate stealing. Will you—er—give me the next one?"

Wooden Stockings?

Turning trees into silk stockings has become an important industry in the United States in recent years. During the last fiscal year more than 6,000,000 pairs of stockings made from artificial silk, obtained from wood pulp, were exported, the National City Bank says. The United States has now become one of the leading world producers of artificial silk.

From being a large importer of this product, this country has become a considerable exporter. While the textiles made from the artificial fiber are not yet fully equal to those produced from the natural silk, the growing use of the artificial silk is illustrated by the fact that our imports of artificial silk, chiefly in the form of yarns or threads, aggregated about \$30,000,000 in the last decade. With the opening of the war the supply from Germany and Belgium was entirely suspended and that from Great Britain and France materially reduced.

German Deserter's Getaway.

Very dramatic was a German soldier's flight across the German frontier into Switzerland a few days ago. The man kept the German sentries engaged in a long conversation and when he considered the opportune moment had arrived he suddenly gave one of the sentries a terrific blow in the face and threw pepper in the faces of the others. By the time the men had gathered their scattered senses together the deserter was already on Swiss soil, whence he waved them a joyful adieu.

LONG COAT SUITS

Outer Garment Serves Well Over Sheer Afternoon Frocks.

Knee Length and Longer is the Rule Followed by Many of the Leading Designers.

Many of the high-grade, expensive suits now being shown for winter have coats that are so long that they may, if desired, serve as separate dressy coats over sheer afternoon frocks, especially if the color of suit and dress blend satisfactorily. Knee length and longer is the rule followed by many of the suit designers who are regarded as style authorities. Of course, these very long coats are used only with the suits made of handsome rich materials. Suits for general and sports wear are equipped with coats that average 34 to 38 inches.

The suit shown in the sketch is an example of the type that will be offered in velvet, velveteen and many of the handsome, soft pile fabrics. Fur trimming is featured. Touches of handsome, heavy embroidery add to the beauty of the garment.

Satin suits are playing an important role in the showing of winter models. Some of these are made of regular, heavyweight satin; but a fabric that is wool on one side and satin on the other is being very much



Ultra Long Suit Coat for Winter.

featured, the wool side being often used as a trimming for the garment. That is, a suit of the fabric may have the satin side turned out, and bands of the other side trim the skirt and be used for cuffs and collar. Heavy silk crepes are also much used in the development of suits.

An interesting suit of broadcloth recently seen had the coat skirt rounded at the back (it was full knee length) and trimmed with several rows of two-inch-wide velvet ribbon in contrasting color. The front of the coat was of the cutaway type.

Detachable fur cuffs, collars that may be snapped, fastened down to form shawl collars or revers or wrapped around the throat scarf style, detachable vests and panels that fold up to form muffs are special suit features.

The straight silhouette is the prevailing one.

BROWNS AND WHO WEAR THEM

Popular Shades for Blondes and Brunettes of Any Type—Supply is Adequate for All.

If more women had a finer appreciation of the part that color plays in making them attractive or unattractive, and in affecting their feelings, there would be a noticeable decrease in the list of the popular shades so-called, declares a fashion writer. Take for example the craze for tango color that possessed the feminine world not so very long ago. From lily white blonde to florid brunette everybody, or nearly everybody, managed to introduce tango somewhere on her person. The result? Well, that is best judged now that the craze is over.

However, there is still plenty of room for color crimes, for another season of brown is being prophesied. Now there are as many shades and hues and tints of brown as there are ladies to wear them. But somebody whispers that the red browns are decidedly to be the thing. Which means that all types and ages of women from the blondie blonde of tender years to the sallow woman well past her first youth is going to go "in" for red brown, confident that she has Dame Fashion for a sponsor.

Now all types and all ages of women can find some one brown to suit, all except the mature woman who is inclined to be sallow. She may have the brown hair and the brown eyes; but she also has brown, unhealthily

brown, skin, and she is not youthful; then brown is not for her.

The other types will choose as follows: The very fair blonde will choose from the green browns and the bronzes. Then the lovely redheads who seem to think that they have a monopoly on the color will look their best in the deeper, rich, dark tones of brown. Some of them if they are quite sure of themselves may attempt the tan-and-yellow browns. The betwixt-and-between girl who is neither quite blonde nor decidedly brunette will find the golden browns best, or perhaps those with a suggestion of pink in their make-up. The brunette who hasn't sufficient color to warrant her being called vivid is privileged to wear any shade of brown. She can go in for red browns to her heart's content, as may also the true brunette with olive skin and pink cheeks. Her more florid sister will appear to advantage in the golden browns.

SHAWL SCARF, NEW FEATURE

Finished With Fringe and So Arranged That It Can Be Left Off Entirely.

The narrow shoulder cape is seen on many of the newest and smartest wraps. It hangs only from the back, however, and does not come over the shoulders.

The shawl scarf, which can be thrown over one shoulder, is also a new feature. It is finished with a fringe and is so arranged that it can be left off entirely.

Some of these heavy velours and duvetyne wraps have beautiful embroidery in heavy woolen threads of contrasting color. This is not unpleasant, as such trimming is new and unusual enough to be welcome for its novelty. For instance, a dark brown coat of military cut shows trailing sprays of flowers, done in this heavy wool and outlined with black threads, to give them tone. For the most part the newest wraps are made for service and utility and have nothing frivolous about them.

Not so, however, are the dressy, delightful brocades and velvets. These have claimed all of the foolish, perishable, beautiful notions that the stern winter coats forego, and reveal themselves in fabrics as soft and transparent as possible, such as georgette, crepe de chine and rare velvets and brocades. Fur bands them from hem to collar.

VELVET IS REPLACING SATIN

Only Material That Can Be Safely Worn Against Face Without Relief After Twenty.

More and more we notice velvet replacing satin. There is no fabric on earth which softens and beautifies like velvet. It is the kindest material in the world when it is placed next a woman's face and it is about the only material that is safely worn against the face without relief after one is over twenty.

One of the loveliest of velvet models is shown in black (good black velvet always looks like a million dollars). The waist has a deep V in front which extends at least nine inches below the waist. This is filled in with a Madonna blue georgette. The top of the georgette at the neck is cut square across. The V is then outlined with fur and the fur, of course, goes around the back of the neck.

The skirt is made with two tunics which open at the front. Both are outlined with this fur edge, the fur going around the bottom and then up to the waist. The sleeves are quite long over the hand, smooth-fitting and without a bit of trimming. There is not a touch of embroidery or braiding of any kind on this frock and it is quite handsome and distinctive.

CHIC HENNA DUVETYN MODEL



Very new and chic is this stunning gown. It is fashioned in henna duvetyne with touches of black satin. The fur-edged collar and the wide band on the skirt are embroidered in black.

OUTDOOR CELLARS AFFORD CONVENIENT AND INEXPENSIVE STORAGE FACILITIES



GOOD TYPE OF OUTDOOR CELLAR FOR ROOTS.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Outdoor storage cellars or caves are excellent for the storage of many vegetables. They are particularly desirable on the farm, as they afford convenient and inexpensive storage facilities for surplus vegetable crops that otherwise might be lost. They possess all the advantages of the storage room in the basement and are superior in many respects. The outdoor storage cellar can be maintained at a uniform temperature over a long period. It is possible to keep the cellar cool and quickly to reduce the temperature of the stored product to the desired point for safe storage by opening the door during the night and closing it in the morning before the air becomes warm. All ventilators should likewise be kept tightly closed until the outside air is again cooler than that within the cellar, when they should be opened, unless the outside temperature is so low as to be dangerous. This safeguards the product and adds to the efficiency of the storage chamber. Vegetables can be more conveniently placed in such a cellar than in the storage room in the basement of a dwelling.

When the chief use of the outdoor storage cellar is for storing turnips, beets, carrots and other root crops commonly used as stock food it should be located near the stable, where the material will be convenient for winter feeding. When it is to be used for vegetables for the table the cellar should be accessible from the kitchen at all times. If apples or other fruits are to be stored in an outdoor storage cellar it is desirable to have a two-compartment cellar, one for vegetables and one for apples, with a ventilating apparatus in each compartment.

Construction of Cellar.

As the root cellar must be weather-proof—that is, capable of being kept free from moisture and free from frost—its type and construction vary with the geographical location. In the southern portion of the country the structure is usually entirely above ground and protected by only a few inches of sod and with straw, leaves, etc. In northern sections outdoor storage cellars are made almost entirely below ground and covered with a foot or two of earth.

Storage in Region of Severe Freezes.

An above-ground storage cellar suited to conditions in southern sections of the United States may be built on a well-drained site at slight expense. A row of posts may be set five or six feet apart, extending seven or eight feet above the surface of the ground, with a ridgepole placed on top of them. Against each side of the ridgepole a row of planks or puncheons is placed, with their opposite ends resting in a shallow trench four or five feet from the line of posts. The ends are boarded up, a door being provided in one end of the structure, and the roof covered with sod to a depth of five or six inches.

Storage in Region of Severe Freezes.

In sections where low temperatures prevail it is necessary to insulate the storage house so that the vegetables will not freeze. An above-ground type of storage house much used in many sections of the North has thick walls filled with insulating material, such as sawdust or shavings. The construction is of frame and the walls are usually ten to twelve inches thick. Both the inside and the outside walls are sheathed with matched lumber so as to make them airtight. The rafters are celled on the under side with the same material and the space between the rafters filled with dry insulating material. The use of building paper in the roof and walls of the storage house is of great assistance in insulating it.

A type of storage cellar much used in northern sections of the country is built partly underground. The walls are of masonry and extend to a point just above the surface of the ground. On these walls plates are set and a roof of frame construction erected. The roof structure is celled on the underside of the rafters and some suitable insulating material, such as dry sawdust or shavings, packed in the space between the rafters, and then the sheathing, paper and roofing material are applied as in the case of the above-ground type of storage cellar described in the previous paragraph. This type of structure is preferable in many respects to the above-ground type, as it is easier to maintain the temperature at the proper point and its insulation is a comparatively easy matter.

Protection From Freezing.

Protection from freezing may be secured with a simpler type of structure by making it entirely underground. In order to avoid steps down to the level of the floor, with the consequent extra labor in storing and removing the veg-

etables, a side-hill location is desirable.

The excavation in the hill should be of approximate size of the cellar, using the dirt for covering the roof and for banking the sides of the structure. A frame is erected by setting two rows of posts of uniform height in the bottom of the pit near the dirt walls and a third line of posts about five feet higher through the center of the pit. These posts serve as supports for the planks or puncheons forming the roof of the structure, as with the above-ground type of storage cellar already described. The door is placed at one end and a ventilator put in the roof. The whole structure with the exception of the portion occupied by the door is covered with dirt and sod. The thickness of the covering must be determined by the location; the colder the climate the thicker the covering. The dirt covering may be supplemented in winter by a layer of manure, straw, corn fodder, etc. Outdoor storage cellars usually are left with dirt floors, as a certain degree of moisture is desirable. These cellars may also be made of concrete, brick, hollow tile, stone or other material.

VELVET BEANS FOR CATTLE

Compare Favorably With Cottonseed Meal—Produce Profitable Gains in Fattening.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The feed question is being solved in many parts of the South by abundant yields of velvet beans which were sown on a large acreage this year. Owing to the increased acreage in Georgia that state alone could take care of 50,000 to 100,000 head of cattle from states where forage is scarce. Large quantities of last year's velvet beans also remain on hand and are being used extensively in feeding dairy cattle. In tests conducted by the United States department of agriculture on the government farms at Beltsville, Md., it was found that velvet beans compare favorably with cottonseed meal, producing profitable gains when the beans are the sole concentrate of the ration; that a combination of corn silage and velvet beans forms a satisfactory ration for fattening steers for market; that it is more profitable to feed soaked beans than it is to grind them; and that more beans will be eaten if soaked before they are fed than if they are fed dry.

TO ERADICATE COTTON PEST

Mexican Agricultural Officials Here to Confer on Various Important Subjects.

The Mexican secretary of agriculture and his associates are visiting the United States department of agriculture for conferences on several subjects, particularly on the pink boll worm which is infesting the cotton crop of Mexico and some portions of



Clarence Osley and Mexican Agricultural Officials.

Texas. One of the objects of the trip is to reach a co-operative agreement between the departments of the two countries on measures to eradicate the cotton pest. In the group are, left to right: Clarence Osley, assistant secretary United States department of agriculture; Don Jose Duvalon, Mexican director of agriculture; Don Pastor Rouaix, Mexican secretary of agriculture and development, and Don Ignacio Lopez Bancalari, Mexican director of irrigation.